

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 COME-00 AGRE-00

TRSE-00 STR-04 L-03 ITC-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

/048 W

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R 290326Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9406

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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STATE PASS AGRICULTURE FOR MEEKER AND ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETSD, AS

SUBJECT: 1977 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM

REF: STATE 290045

1. SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL AND INVITATION TO ATTEND WASHINGTON  
NEGOTIATIONS PASSED TO GOA AT JOINT MEETING WITH DOT AND DPI  
OFFICIALS. MCGOLDRICK, FAS COMMODITY POLICY, CHAIRING MEETING,  
INDICATED GOA PLEASED WITH US PROPOSAL FOR COMPLETION OF  
NEGOTIATIONS OF 1977 RESTRAINT PROGRAM BEFORE DECEMBER 31, AS  
THEY AND AUSTRALIAN MEAT BOARD (AMB) WISH SETTLEMENT OF  
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AUSTRALIAN SHIPPING ENTITLEMENT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE FOR A

VARIETY OF REASONS, NOT LEAST TO PERMIT AMB TO ARRANGE 1977 SHIPPING PROGRAM. ACCORDINGLY, GOA WELL AWARE OF URGENCY AND IMPORTANCE OF NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, DOT UNABLE TO GIVE IMMEDIATE ANSWER ON SIZE AND PERSONNEL OF DELEGATION TO ATTEND WASHINGTON MEETING, AS THIS IS TO BE CONSIDERED BY DOT AND DPI IN RELATION TO CURRENT TRAVEL AND OTHER BUDGETARY RESTRAINTS. GOA DEFINITELY WISHES TO NEGOTIATE AND WILL BE REPRESENTED AT WASHINGTON MEETING BY OFFICIALS GIVEN AUTHORITY TO CONCLUDE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREEMENT. DOT WILL ADVISE EMBASSY OF NEGOTIATING TEM DETAILS ASAP.

2. MCGOLDRICK INDICATED THAT BASIC GOA CONCERN IN NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE MAINTENANCE OF AUSTRALIAN SHARE OF 1976 IMPORT PROGRAM, I.E. 51.7 PERCENT OF TOTAL RESTRAINT LEVEL. IN VIEW OF 50 MILLION POUND INCREASE IN TRIGGER LEVEL, GOA ASSUMES THERE WILL BE SOME INCREASE IN ABSOLUTE TERMS OVER THE 1976 QUOTA, AND EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE LEVEL OF CANADIAN ALLOCATION.

3. BEEF SUPPLY AVAILABLE FOR SHIPMENT TO THE US DURING 1977 WILL BE IN EXCESS OF ANTICIPATED RESTRAINT LEVEL. IN THE ABSENCE OF RESTRAINTS OR QUOTAS IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT OVER 650 MILLION POUNDS WOULD BE AVAILABLE. THIS IS PARTICULARLY SO NOW DEVALUATION OF AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR TODAY BY 17.5 PERCENT HAS MADE RETURNS FROM US MARKET MORE ATTRACTIVE. THIS WOULD PROBABLY DRAW CATTLE TO MARKET IN EARLY 1977, WHEREAS CURRENT PASTURE CONDITIONS MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE ENCOURAGED PRODUCERS TO WITHHOLD CATTLE IN ANTICIPATION OF BETTER MARKETS DURING SECOND HALF OF 1977. ACTION BY EEC AFTER APRIL 1 AND POSSIBLE RE-OPENING OF JAPAN MARKET WILL ALSO BE A FACTOR, ALTHOUGH PROBABLY A MINOR ONE. HARGROVE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, MEATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976CANBER08620  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 290045  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** 1977 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** EAGR, ETRD, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006